## DETAILED ACTION

## EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Dean M. Munyon on 10/21/2009.

**Remark:** The storage device and processor include only hardware devices.

**In claims:** please replace the filed amendment on 9/1/2009 with the below amended claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for retrieving data in a relational database, comprising:

accessing by using a computer system the relational database to obtain information regarding a unit of manufacture, the relational database comprising at least one location information lookup table, at least one parts information lookup table, at least one unit storage table, and at least one parameter definition lookup table;

retrieving information on the unit of manufacture from at least a portion of the relational database;

wherein said at least one location information lookup table of the relational database comprises:

a list of available locations in the unit of manufacture to place a part from the at least one parts information lookup table; and

information indicating, for each location of a plurality of available locations in the unit of manufacture, whether the location is required to be populated by a part corresponding to an entry in said at least one parts information lookup table;

wherein said at least one parts information lookup table comprises entries for a plurality of parts usable in different types of units of manufactures; and

wherein said at least one unit storage table of the relational database specifies a configuration of the unit of manufacture and comprises:

a unit parts list storage table containing information indicating a list of parts for the unit of manufacture, and further containing, for each part in the list of parts, information usable to determine at least one location within the unit of manufacture at that part is placed; and

a unit parameter list storage table containing information regarding one or more values for one or more parameters of one or more parts in the unit parts list storage table, wherein the one or more parameters are adjustable settings for the one or more parts;

assigning one or more default values to the one or more parameters, wherein the one or more default values are predefined values specified by one or more entries for the one or more parts in the parameter definition lookup table of the relational database; and

subsequently modifying one or more values for the one or more parameters, wherein said modifying does not affect the predefined values specified by the parameter definition lookup table;

wherein the relational database further comprises an interface definition lookup table that defines interfaces for a plurality of parts in the parts information lookup table, wherein the interfaces are potential locations for electrical or mechanical connections between parts; and

wherein the relational database further comprises a parameter list lookup table and a parameter description look up table that are usable to access information indicating multiple pre-defined configurations of a part listed in the unit parts list storage table.

2-4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein for a first part corresponding to an entry in said parts information lookup table, a part type lookup table in the relational database is usable to access information indicating a part type for the first part and information indicating whether the first part is variable in size.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said unit parts list storage table is related to a processor group storage table in the relational database that is usable to access:

information indicating that a group of parts is associated with a processor listed in the unit parts list storage table; and

information indicating that the processor and group of parts are associated with a particular operating system.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said interface definition lookup table is related to an interface family lookup table in the relational database,

wherein the interface family lookup table is usable to access information identifying compatible mating connections of plurality of parts in the parts information lookup table.

10-39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently Amended) A computing device for retrieving data in a relational database, comprising:

a processor;

a storage device coupled to the processor;

wherein the storage device stores relational database software executable by the processor to maintain the relational database and to access information regarding a unit of manufacture in the relational database, the relational database comprising at least one location information lookup table, at least one parts information lookup table, at least one unit storage table, and at least one parameter definition lookup table;

wherein the at least one location information lookup table of the relational database comprises:

a list of available locations in the unit of manufacture to place a part from the at least one parts information lookup table; and

information indicating, for each location of a plurality of available locations in the unit of manufacture, whether the location is required to be populated by a part;

wherein the at least one parts information lookup table comprises entries for a plurality of parts usable in different types of units of manufactures;

wherein the at least one unit storage table of the relational database includes information specifying a configuration of the unit of manufacture and comprises:

a unit parts list storage table containing information indicating a list of parts for the unit of manufacture, and further containing, for each part in the list of parts, information usable to determine at least one location within the unit of manufacture at that part is placed; and

a unit parameter list storage table containing information regarding one or more values for one or more parameters of one or more parts in the unit parts list storage table, wherein the one or more parameters are variable settings for the one or more parts;

a instruction of a program configured to cause one or more default values to be assigned to the one or more parameters, wherein the one or more default values are predefined values specified by one or more entries for the one or more parts in the parameter definition lookup table of the relational database; and

a instruction of the program configured to subsequently modify the one or more values for the one or more parameters, wherein said modifying does not affect the predefined values specified by one or more entries in the parameter definition lookup table[[.]];

wherein the relational database further comprises an interface definition lookup table that defines interfaces for a plurality of parts in the parts information lookup table, wherein the interfaces are potential locations for electrical or mechanical connections between parts; and

wherein the relational database further comprises a parameter list lookup table and a parameter description look up table that are usable to access information indicating multiple pre-defined configurations of a part listed in the unit parts list storage table.

41. (Previously Presented) The computing system of claim 40, wherein for a first part corresponding to an entry in said parts information lookup table, a part type lookup table in the relational database is usable to access information indicating a part type for the first part and information indicating whether the first part is variable in size.

42. (Previously Presented) The computing system of claim 40, wherein said unit parts list storage table is related to a processor group storage table in the relational database that is usable to access:

information indicating that a group of parts is associated with a processor listed in the unit parts list storage table; and

information indicating that the processor and group of parts are associated with a particular operating system.

43-44. (Canceled)

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

assembling the unit of manufacture in accordance with the information in the relational database regarding the unit of manufacture.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising:

testing the assembled unit of manufacture in accordance with the information in the relational database regarding the unit of manufacture.

47-49. (Canceled)

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1, 5, 7, 9, 40-42, 45, and 46 are allowed.

The prior arts of record alone or in combination, does not teach or fairly suggest combination of steps as recited in independent claims 1 and 40, wherein:

assigning one or more default values to the one or more parameters, wherein the one or more default values are predefined values specified by one or more entries for the one or more parts in the parameter definition lookup table of the relational database; subsequently modifying one or more values for the one or more parameters, wherein said modifying does not affect the predefined values specified by the parameter definition lookup table; wherein said at least one unit storage table of the relational database specifies a configuration of the unit of manufacture and comprises: a unit parts list storage table containing information indicating a list of parts for the unit of manufacture, and further containing, for each part in the list of parts, information usable to determine at least one location within the unit of manufacture at that part is placed; and a unit parameter list storage table containing information regarding one or more values for one or more parameters of one or more parts in the unit parts list storage table, wherein the one or more parameters are adjustable settings for the one or more parts; wherein the relational database further comprises an interface definition lookup table that defines interfaces for a plurality of parts in the parts information lookup table, wherein the interfaces are potential locations for electrical or mechanical connections between parts; and wherein the relational database further comprises a parameter list lookup table and a parameter description look up table that are usable to access information indicating multiple pre-defined configurations of a part listed in the unit parts list storage table.

The dependent claims, bring definite, further limiting, and fully enabled by the specification are also allowed.

## Contact Information

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cam Y T. Truong whose telephone number is (571) 272-4042. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Firday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tony Mahmoudi can be reached on (571) 272-4078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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/Cam Y Truong/
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